

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

ITEM

14

DECISION

TOPIC

Yellow River State Forest – Paint Rock Unit, Allamakee County

The Forestry Bureau is conducting a timber sale involving approximately 22 acres involving 86 walnut trees (11,460 board feet (Scribner)) located on the Paint Rock Unit of the Yellow River State Forest. The trees are located Section 27 & 34, Taylor Township, T79N, R3W, in Allamakee County. Trees are marked with yellow paint.

The goal of the harvest is to thin the stand to achieve more optimal growth on the remaining trees and improve the overall health and quality of the stand. The stand contains over-mature and declining walnuts. These will be commercially harvested. Following the harvest, Yellow River State Forest crews will remove other defective trees in an improvement cut involving all size classes.

The proposed sale was posted to the DNR website in March, 2006 with the more detailed sale information appearing December, 2006. This is the third sale in this Unit and compartment this winter and is consistent with the management objectives for this Unit of improving the health and vigor of the Unit by removing diseased, over-mature and poor quality trees. Management plans are prepared the Forest, but still undergoing internal review before being posted.

Site review was conducted during the summer of 2006 by DNR Wildlife Diversity Specialist, Daryl Howell. No site was listed in the 1986 confidential archaeological site report for Allamakee County. No waterways will be crossed and no skid trails will be established. There is an existing service road which can be utilized for access.

Sealed bids were received until 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 30, 2007, at which time bids were opened.

The bids were as follows:

Timber Buyer	Bid Amount
Ron Howell	\$28,750.00
Todd Jones / Jones Wood Heating	\$22,500.00
Charles Downs	\$ 9,856.00

Staff recommends that the Commission accept of the bid from Ron Howell for \$28,750.00. The successful bidder must execute a timber sale contract with the State of Iowa by March 1, 2007, and make payment at that time. Trees must be removed by April 1st, 2008. Liability insurance is required. Buyers must be bonded.

<u>Species</u>	<u># Trees</u>	<u>Bd Ft</u>
Walnut	86	11,460

Ken Herring, Division Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division
January 30, 2007